

Pluralism in Economics and Postcolonial Political Economy

There is an emerging debate between heterodox economics and post-and decolonial scholarship. This special issue interrogates their possible common terrain and invites papers that explore the relationship between pluralism, evolutionary political economy and post-/decoloniality. The main aim is to provide a space for the current debates on post/decoloniality and their relevance for economics, political economy and pluralism. These debates concern, among other things, the imperial origins of contemporary capitalism, the current state of economics as a science, or the role of institutions shaping not only the relationship between the Global North and South, but also in constructing and reproducing these categories themselves. To this end, we invite contributions on both a foundational and a more applied level.

On a foundational level, the special issue will address the conceptual relationship between pluralism in economics and the decolonizing economics project. Both pluralism and decoloniality have received considerable academic and activist attention in the past, but an explicit examination of their relationship is still lacking. Both concepts have inspired corresponding academic-activist movements - such as the *Network for Pluralism in Economics* and *Decolonizing Economics* - that seek to change the academic institutions of economics. Debates between scholars working on pluralism and decoloniality have begun to gain momentum. Contributions to this special issue could contribute to these debates, for example, by explicitly addressing the philosophical relationship between pluralism in economics and decolonizing economics, by discussing colonial elements in different schools of economic thought and approaches to addressing them, by discussing how heterodox economics can advance the decoloniality project, or by discussing the institutional changes that would be required to decolonize and pluralize economics, and their relationship to each other.

On a more applied level, contributions to the special issue may address concrete socioeconomic challenges, taking into account both the insights from postcolonial interventions in economics, as well as more traditional work in evolutionary

political economics, or heterodox economics more generally. They could do so, for example, by addressing the nexus between race, empire, and capitalism, which has remained largely unacknowledged within economics but has sparked a lively debate in History, Sociology and International Relations. Another avenue might be to discuss the contributions of non-Western thinkers and how the consideration of their work can address the Eurocentrism of much of contemporary economics. A further potential area of application is the study of the formation and operation of economic institutions in the Global South, as well as institutions that shape the relations between the Global North and South.

Thus, possible questions addressed by the contributions to this special issue are broad and can (but do not need to) refer to the following examples:

- What is the conceptual relationship between pluralism and postcolonial scholarship? Where do these concepts complement each other, and what are possible tensions?
- What are colonial elements in heterodox schools of thought, such as evolutionary political economy, and how can they be addressed?
- How can the decolonial debate benefit from taking into account insights from heterodox economics in general, or evolutionary political economy in particular?
- How does scholarship that qualifies as de-and postcolonial allow us to understand capitalist dynamics differently?
- How would a decolonialized economic history of the Global South look like and how can it benefit from heterodox economic approaches?
- The contributions of non-Western thinkers to heterodox economics
- How adequate are the categories of 'Global South' and 'Global North' to understand historical and contemporary dynamics of global capitalism?
- How were empires organized economically and what does that tell us about capitalist dynamics?

REPE supports 'online first publishing'. Papers will be published online upon acceptance after having been peer-reviewed by 2-3 independent reviewers, which may be earlier than the publication date of the full issue.

All selected contributions will go through a full peer review process according to the usual standards of REPE.

TENTATIVE TIMELINE

- **30th September 2025:** Submission of title and abstracts (please send abstract to all three guest editors)
- **30th November 2026:** Notification of acceptance by Guest editors
- **31st January 2026:** Invited papers must be submitted via REPE's online submission system for peer review
- **August 2026:** End of review process
- **10th September 2026:** Final version of the paper should be submitted
- **December 2026:** Publication of the SI

GUEST EDITORS

- Zeynep Gülşah Çapan (University of Erfurt) : gulsah.capan@uni-erfurt.de
- Claudius Gräbner-Radkowsch (Europa-Universität Flensburg & Johannes Kepler University Linz): claudius.graebner-radkowsch@uni-flensburg.de
- Oliver Kessler (University of Erfurt): oliver.kessler@uni-erfurt.de

Political Economy, 3(2), 293–318.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s43253-021-00055-2>

Sabaratnam, M. (2023) "Bring up the bodies: international order, empire, and re-thinking the Great War (1914–1918) from below", *European Journal of International Relations*, 29(3), pp. 553–575.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/13540661231156347>

Srinivas, S. (2023). India and 'European' evolutionary political economy. *Review of Evolutionary Political Economy*, 4(2), 415–443. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43253-023-00105-x>

Tilley, Lisa and Shilliam, Robbie (2018) 'Raced Markets: An Introduction.' *New Political Economy*, 23 (5). pp. 534-543.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13563467.2017.1417366>

Core references

Dannreuther, C. (2024). Power in the future of work: Production, reproduction, and reconstruction. *Review of Evolutionary Political Economy*, 5(2), 329–350.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s43253-024-00130-4>

Go, J. (2016). *Postcolonial thought and social theory*. Oxford University Press.

Gräbner-Radkowsch, C. and Strunk, B. (2023) 'Degrowth and the Global South: The twin problem of global dependencies', *Ecological Economics*, 213, p. 107946.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2023.107946>.

Koddenbrock, K., Kvangraven, I., and Sylla, N. (2022): Beyond financialization: The longue durée of finance and Production in the Global South, *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 46(4), 703-733.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/cje/beac029>

Kvangraven, I.H. and Kesar, S. (2023) 'Standing in the way of rigor? Economics' meeting with the decolonization agenda', *Review of International Political Economy*, 30(5), pp. 1723–1748.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09692290.2022.2131597>.

Rama, J. (2022). On Celso Furtado and the French influences found in his development economics. *Review of Evolutionary*